

Coffee Break

By Adeline Daley

Maybe children in other households prefer playing with conventional toys, such as, tops, blocks, electric trains and stuffed animals. But with our kids, however, I sometimes wonder why we bother to purchase any when household items like Dixie Cups and Kleenex dispensers and Band-aids are available to amuse them.

In fact, they're such favorites with our kids that I ought to buy them by the gross so as not to spoil their fun by running out. And, who knows, we just might have a Band-aid handy when we need one.

It makes you wonder, too, if kids really need toys, per se, because when ours were younger they seemed to find much more enjoyment in pulling out pots and pans from cupboards than they did playing with blocks in their playpen. Nor did we need to buy a rocking horse when they could rock and knock their heads in their crib.

I've seen our kids have more fun with boxes than with the toys they contained. At no cost, bunk beds can be converted into Pullman berths. Beds and houses can be made by tossing blankets over the dining room table and chairs make ideal barricades when laid end to end.

I've noticed that the attention span children have for mechanical toys is about as long as the life span of a Mediterranean Fruit Fly. However, these toys do provide amusement for male adults.

All of this has led me to believe that toy stores would be wise to start selling some of these items as "toys." For instance, why not sell boxes of expensive embossed stationery directly to the kids? That way, you wouldn't have to resort to using the backs of paper napkins to keep up with your correspondence after the kids have used yours all up drawing pictures of "Batman."

"Lipstick" would be another item sold at toy stores. The idea would be to encase it in a Helena Rubenstein container, "hide" it in your purse, but have the "lipstick" made of a washable substance when your child chooses to smear it all over her face.

However, in some cases, I'm afraid that the regulation toys would be less costly. I am thinking of walls being used to draw finger paint murals instead of paper. It might be wiser, too, to invest in a trampoline which can take the work of bouncing "circus acrobats" better than our beds do.

Of course, children outgrow many of these "toys" and find new playthings—the telephone, automobiles, clothes, records, boy and girl friends. It's then when you start appreciating all those Dixie Cup and Kleenex dispensers.

Sunday Tea Given by Xi Zetas

Xi Zeta Chi Chapter of Beta Sigma Phi International Sorority observed International Beginning Day with a tea last Sunday afternoon at the Torrance home of Mrs. George Gibbs.

An arrangement of yellow roses, the sorority flower, flanked by yellow candies centered the table which also held a silver tea

service. Mrs. Carl L. Carlson, junior past president, presided at the tea service. Mrs. William Hutcherson, program chairman, gave to the members their program and yearbooks for the coming year. From September until May, the chapter will study "The Festival of Life."

Attending the Tea were Mmes. Al Weaverling, Al

Macho, Jerry Gude, William Hutcherson, Joe Ondell, Stanley Nelson, Sam Dominguez, Charles Pinkney, and Carl Carlson.

Next chapter meeting will be held Sept. 14 at the home of Mrs. William Hutcherson in Granada Hills.

Xi Zeta Chapter will host a Polynesian Night as a ways and means project on

Program On Blender Uses Set Sept. 20

The Southern California Edison Company will host a free public program, "The Blender Way To Better Cooking," on Sept. 20, at 10 a.m. in the Electric Living Center, 125 South Catalina Avenue, Redondo Beach.

The guest speaker, Mrs. Eleanor Clark of Hamilton

Sept. 17 at the home of Mrs. Charles Pinkney in Palos Verdes.

Beach Appliances, will discuss ways every homemaker can use the electric blender to prepare a great variety of new and interesting recipes.

Mrs. Joyce Cutter, Home Economist with Edison says, "Mrs. Clark has planned an exciting program filled with new time-saving ideas and delicious recipes. Every lady who enjoys cooking will be

delighted with the presentation." No reservations are necessary. There will be free recipes and refreshments for all who attend.



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Student To Tell of Year In Israel

Recounting his adventures during his recent sojourn in Israel, Sheldon Stern will address the South Bay Chapter of Hadassah at its meeting on Monday, Sept. 19, at 12:30 p.m. at the home of Mrs. Nan Sattton, 3030 Merrill Drive, Torrance.

Sheldon, son of Mr. and Mrs. Max Stern, Torrance, is a student at El Camino College, majoring in biochemistry. He was selected by Hadassah as a result of outstanding achievements as Leader of a Young Judes Group, to spend a year studying and working in Israel. The program in which he participated included attendance at the University of Jerusalem, working on a kibbutz and a moshav, two types of Israeli agricultural communities, and public relations work at the Hadassah Medical Center. Sheldon returned home in August, via Europe.

Hostesses for the meeting will be Mmes. Nan Sattton, Fannie Miller and William Groveman.

New Classes In Square Dance Slated

Swing'n Whirl Dance Club announces the opening of a new square dance class on Thursday, Sept. 22 from 8:30 to 10:30 p.m. at 1953 W. Carson St. in Torrance. Registration for the class will be open for three weeks.

Also on the same day, at 6:30 and continuing until 8:30 a square dance class for pre-teens, age 6 to 11 years, will open. For further information on either class Walt Fagan may be called.

Wisconsin Trip

Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Gmur and sons, Steve and Bob, 2317 W. 117th St. returned Saturday from a two weeks vacation. The family went to Wisconsin where they visited Mr. Gmur's family. While there they attended the William Tell Day celebration at New Glarus. On their return trip they visited the Petrified Forest and the Grand Canyon in Arizona.

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